

Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

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AMEMBASSY LUSAKA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY

AMCONSUL CAPETOWN PRIORITY

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CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

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TAGS: PFOR, UNSC, MZ

SUBJECT: SECURITY COUNCIL: MEETING ON MOZAMBIQUE OFFSET

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF AMB BENNETT'S STATEMENT IN SECURITY
COUNCIL, AFTERNOON MARCH 17: PRESS RELEASE USUN-33(76).

QUOTE LET ME FIRST CONGRATULATE YOU SIR, ON YOUR ASSUMPTION
OF THE PRESIDENCY OF THIS COUNCIL. MY DELEGATION LOOKS FOR-
WARD TO WORKING VERY CLOSELY WITH YOU AND TO GIVING YOU EVERY
FEASIBLE SUPPORT AS THE COUNCIL DISCUSSES PROBLEMS OF MAJOR
IMPORTANCE TO US ALL.

I WOULD LIKE ALSO TO EXPRESS APPRECIATION FOR THE KIND
AND GENEROUS REMARKS MADE BY YOU AND BY OTHER MEMBERS OF
THE COUNCIL IN RESPECT TO THE PRESIDENCY OF THE SECURITY
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COUNCIL DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY. I AM ALSO GRATEFUL FOR

SEVERAL STATEMENTS OF GRACIOUS WISHES WHICH I SHALL BE VERY PLEASED TO CONVEY TO AMBASSADOR SCRANTON, THE NEW REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES WHO WILL BE ARRIVING HERE THIS WEEK TO TAKE UP HIS NEW DUTIES.

THE DELEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES IS PLEASED TO JOIN WITH THE OTHER DELEGATIONS WHO HAVE SPOKEN TO COMMEND THE GOVERNMENT OF MOZAMBIQUE FOR ITS DECISION TO ENFORCE FULLY MANDATORY SANCTIONS AGAINST THE ILLEGAL GOVERNMENT IN RHODESIA. WE BELIEVE THIS DECISION REPRESENTS A MAJOR STEP FORWARD IN THE EFFORTS OF THE UNITED NATIONS TO ENFORCE SANCTIONS AND THEREBY BRING AN END TO MINORITY RULE IN RHODESIA.

IT IS THE SINCERE HOPE OF MY GOVERNMENT THAT THE ENFORCEMENT OF SANCTIONS BY MOZAMBIQUE WILL BE COUPLED WITH THE ADOPTION BY THIS COUNCIL OF A RESOLUTION ON ASSISTANCE TO MOZAMBIQUE WHICH IS PLACED IN THE CONTEXT OF ARTICLE 50 OF THE UNITED NATIONS CHARTER. WE BELIEVE THAT THE SUPPORT OF THIS COUNCIL FOR MOZAMBIQUE WILL BE A CLEAR SIGN TO THE REGIME IN SALISBURY THAT THE UNITED NATIONS ARE COMMITTED TO THE PEACEFUL TRANSITION TO MAJORITY RULE WHICH IS SO URGENTLY NEEDED IN THAT COUNTRY.

ACCORDINGLY, THE UNITED STATES WILL VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE RESOLUTION BEFORE US BECAUSE WE TAKE ITS PURPOSE TO BE TWOFOLD:

-- FIRST, TO ISSUE AN APPEAL FOR ASSISTANCE TO MOZAMBIQUE UNDER ARTICLE 50 OF THE CHARTER. MOZAMBIQUE HAS PROPERLY AND COMMENDABLY IMPOSED SANCTIONS ON RHODESIA'S MINORITY GOVERNMENT AND ACCORDINGLY HAS REASON TO SEEK RECOURSE UNDER ARTICLE 50; AND

-- SECOND, TO DEMONSTRATE THAT THE COUNCIL SPEAKS WITH ONE VOICE ON RHODESIAN MATTERS. THERE SHOULD BE NO DOUBT THAT THIS COUNCIL FAVORS THE URGENT IMPLEMENTATION OF MAJORITY RULE IN RHODESIA.

I SHALL HAVE TO SAY FRANKLY THAT WE ARE DISAPPOINTED THAT THE RESOLUTION CONTAINS A NUMBER OF ELEMENTS WHICH DO NOT BEAR ON ITS MAIN OBJECTIVES. THE CHARGES OF AGGRESSION IN THE UNCLASSIFIED

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THIRD PREAMBULAR AND SECOND OPERATIVE PARAGRAPHS UNDOUBTEDLY DESERVE CAREFUL ATTENTION. BUT MY GOVERNMENT WISHES TO MAKE CLEAR THAT IT DOES NOT REGARD THEM AS RELATED TO THE APPEAL WHICH THE COUNCIL IS MAKING ON BEHALF OF MOZAMBIQUE UNDER ARTICLE 50. WE VIEW THE APPEAL AS PREMISED SOLELY ON MOZAMBIQUE'S COMPLIANCE WITH SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS 232 AND 253 AND THE COSTS WHICH ENSUE FROM THAT COMPLIANCE. WE WOULD NORMALLY HAVE ABSTAINED ON THIS RESOLUTION BECAUSE OF THE IN-

SERTION OF THESE REFERENCES. IN FACT, WE DID SO IN A SIMILAR SITUATION IN THE COUNCIL IN 1973. TODAY, HOWEVER, WE SHALL VOTE IN FAVOR, WITH THE EXPLANATION I HAVE JUST GIVEN, IN ORDER TO LEAVE NO DOUBT THAT WE SUPPORT THE PRINCIPAL PURPOSE OF THIS RESOLUTION AS WELL AS THE PURPOSE OF SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS 232 AND 253 WHICH IT REINFORCES.

MR. PRESIDENT, MY GOVERNMENT WILL GIVE FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION TO ASSISTANCE TO MOZAMBIQUE IN OFFSETTING THE HEAVY FINANCIAL BURDENS IT WILL INCUR BY CLOSING ITS BORDER WITH RHODESIA.

THE UNITED STATES REMAINS UNEQUIVOCAL IN ITS SUPPORT FOR THE EFFORTS OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT TO BRING AN END TO THE REBELLION IN RHODESIA. WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE STRONGLY THAT MAJORITY RULE IS A VITAL AND URGENT NECESSITY IN RHODESIA. I CALL THE COUNCIL'S PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO THE STATEMENT IN CHICAGO BY PRESIDENT FORD ON MARCH 13 THAT, "THE UNITED STATES IS TOTALLY DEDICATED TO SEEING TO IT THAT THE MAJORITY BECOMES THE RULING POWER IN RHODESIA." THE PRESIDENT ADDED THAT, "IF WE BELIEVE IN THE RIGHT OF THE MAJORITY TO RULE IN THAT SITUATION, THERE HAS TO BE A CHANGE IN THE POWER AS FAR AS THE GOVERNMENT IS CONCERNED. WHETHER IT CAN BE DONE IS A QUESTION THAT WE HAVE TO FACE. THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT HAS TRIED FOR YEARS TO GET SMITH TO MOVE. THE UNITED STATES HAS BEEN PUSHING. I THINK THEY JUST HAVE TO MOVE AND IF THEY DON'T ... WE HAVE TO BE ON THE RIGHT SIDE MORALLY AND THE RIGHT SIDE MORALLY IS TO BE FOR MAJORITY RULE."

ON MARCH 16, YESTERDAY, SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER MADE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT TO THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE:

"IN SOUTHERN RHODESIA WE ARE NOT SUPPORTING THE WHITE
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GOVERNMENT OR THE WHITE AUTHORITIES ... I, IN THIS STATEMENT BEFORE THE COMMITTEE, AGAIN MADE CLEAR THAT WE STAND FOR MAJORITY RULE AND WE WILL DO NOTHING TO SUPPORT THE WHITE MINORITY TO CONTINUE TO EXERCISE AUTHORITY IN RHODESIA.

"SO WHAT WE CAN DO ABOUT IT IN ANY GIVEN INSTANCE DEPENDS ON THE CIRCUMSTANCES, BUT WE HAVE TO MAKE CLEAR WHAT WE STAND FOR AND THEN WE HAVE TO WORK TOWARDS IT."

I BELIEVE THESE STATEMENTS MAKE VERY CLEAR WHERE THE UNITED STATES STANDS ON THE RHODESIAN QUESTION. IT IS TIME FOR TRUE SELF DETERMINATION AND FOR MAJORITY RULE IN RHODESIA.
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